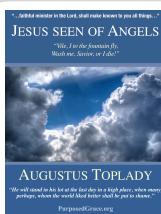


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

May 13th, 2018

“By THEE have I been holden up from the womb: THOU art HE that took me out of my mother’s bowels: my praise shall be continually of THEE”

(PSALM 71:6)



New on our bookshelf... Augustus Toplady
Jesus Seen Of Angels

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT
bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us

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Sunday School	10:00 am
Sunday Worship	11:00 am
Wednesday Worship	7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

This evening's podcast will be from PASTOR EMERITUS JACK SHANKS

ACTS 20:17-27 — “I AM A BIGOT”

Recorded on Sunday morning, August 22nd, 1999

To find our podcast search for the keyword PurposedGrace on



Apple's Podcast App or



Google's Play Music App

IN THE DAY OF ADVERSITY, CONSIDER

“IN THE DAY OF PROSPERITY BE JOYFUL, BUT IN THE DAY OF ADVERSITY CONSIDER:
GOD ALSO HATH SET THE ONE OVER AGAINST THE OTHER, TO THE END THAT MAN
SHOULD FIND NOTHING AFTER HIM”

(ECCLESIASTES 7:14)

My young friend, if your worldly prospects should be blasted—you are called “*in the day of adversity*” to “*consider*,” Ecclesiastes 7:14; to “*consider your ways*,” Haggai 1:5. Fret not, murmur not at the chastisement; but be calm to inquire wherefore it is that God contends with you? Examine yourself, and expect to find the cause there. Is there not a cause? Has not your heart gone after idols? Have you not sought to find your rest on earth? Have you not sunk into neglect of known duty, or want of spirituality in its discharge? May it not even be, that you have been altogether living without God in the world? How needful, then, and how gracious are these afflictive dispensations, to remind you that earth affords you no satisfying, no abiding portion, and that you need an interest in God? Hearken to “*the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him,*” Hebrews 12:5; but fall in with the design of the stroke; flee to Him who smites; lay hold on His strength, and be at peace with Him. That will be a blessed affliction, the fruit of which is to take away sin, by leading you to the Saviour.

WRITTEN ‘BY A MOTHER’

Excerpt from “THE YOUNG WIFE, OR HINTS TO MARRIED DAUGHTERS BY A MOTHER”

FATHER, I BLESS THY GENTLE HAND

“THE STATUTES OF THE LORD ARE RIGHT, REJOICING THE HEART: THE COMMANDMENT OF THE LORD IS PURE, ENLIGHTENING THE EYES”

(PSALM 19:8)

Father, I bless Thy gentle hand; how kind was Thy chastising rod,
That forced my conscience to a stand, and brought my wandering soul to God!

Foolish and vain, I went astray—ere I had felt Thy scourges, Lord;
I left my guide, and lost my way; but now I love and keep Thy Word.

'Tis good for me to wear the yoke, for pride is apt to rise and swell;
'Tis good to bear my Father's stroke, that I might learn His statutes well.

The law that issues from Thy mouth—shall raise my cheerful passions more
Than all the treasures of the south, or western hills of golden ore.

Thy hands have made my mortal frame, Thy Spirit formed my soul within;
Teach me to know Thy wondrous name, and guard me safe from death and sin.

Then all that love and fear the Lord—at my salvation shall rejoice;
For I have hoped in Thy Word, and made Thy grace my only choice.

—ISAAC WATTS (1674-1748)

TILL DEATH DO US PART

“TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CHURCH OF THE FIRSTBORN, WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN HEAVEN, AND TO GOD THE JUDGE OF ALL, AND TO THE SPIRITS OF JUST MEN MADE PERFECT” (HEBREWS 12:23)

[My] beloved young friend, among the various changes of scene and circumstances through which you may pass, let it not be overlooked, that there is one thing through which you must pass. It is that separation, the allusion to which gave a pensive tone to the expression of your exulting joy, when, in the solemnity of the nuptial union, you said, ‘Till death us do part.’ It were greatly wise to keep that separation daily in view; not to cast a gloom over your daily intercourse, but to regulate your daily conduct; so that no action, or word, or feeling, shall be encouraged which would add bitterness to the sorrows of the parting hour; and to remind you of the paramount importance of being, each of you, living in holy and habitual preparation for that solemn exchange of worlds; so that each, whichever may first hear the summons, “*The Master is come, and calleth for thee,*” may be ready to reply, “*Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus:*” and that the survivor may have no anxious misgivings as to the safety of the departed spirit, no apprehensions of an eternal separation; but may be soothed and cheered by the well grounded confidence, that the saint who earliest sleeps in Jesus, and the later sojourner on earth, will soon meet again as *spirits of the just made perfect*, and be for ever with each other, and for ever with the Lord.

WRITTEN ‘BY A MOTHER’

Excerpt from “THE YOUNG WIFE, OR HINTS TO MARRIED DAUGHTERS BY A MOTHER”

FOR THEM WHICH SHALL BELIEVE

"NEITHER PRAY I FOR THESE ALONE, BUT FOR THEM ALSO WHICH SHALL BELIEVE
ON ME THROUGH THEIR WORD"

(JOHN 17:20)

[Beloved] it is one part of Christ's work to pray for those that are coming to Christ, who are not yet brought unto Christ. "Neither pray I for these alone, but for all those that shall believe [though as yet they do not believe] in me [but that they may believe] through their word." Let me tell thee, soul, for thy comfort, who art coming to Christ, panting and sighing, as if thy heart would break, I tell thee, soul, thou wouldest never have come to Christ if He had not by the virtue of His blood and intercession first sent into thy heart an earnest desire after Christ. And let me tell thee also that it is His business to make intercession for thee, not only that thou mightest come in, but that thou mightest be preserved when thou art come in.

[PASTOR] JOHN BUNYAN (1674-1748)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE POWER OF GOD

"...THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE POWER OF GOD; WHO HATH SAVED US, AND CALLED US WITH AN HOLY CALLING, NOT ACCORDING TO OUR WORKS, BUT ACCORDING TO HIS OWN PURPOSE AND GRACE, WHICH WAS GIVEN US IN CHRIST JESUS BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN" (2 TIMOTHY 1:8-9)

Beloved, we know that God "*hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works.*" My friend, God's people are not saved by what they have done or will do, but rather beloved you know by God's quickening grace, He saved us, and called us "*according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began!*" If you are clothed in His righteousness—you didn't do that! I didn't clothe myself, rather He has clothed me; just as He taught Adam the gospel—so He teaches all His dear people. You see, God did not merely make a provision for covering Adam's sin and leave it to Adam to put on the garment that typifies the righteousness of Christ [GENESIS 3:21]. Taught of God we know our salvation was not by our doing, nor by our choosing, but *blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ* it is "*according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began!*" May God grant to you His grace to receive the Gospel of Christ and make you to know "*that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*" God bless you and grant you to be arrayed in the fine linen, clean and white, of Christ's righteousness alone!

PASTOR